



County of Los Angeles
CHIEF ADMINISTRATIVE OFFICE

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DAVID E. JANSSEN
Chief Administrative Officer

June 21, 2002

To: Supervisor Zev Yaroslavsky, Chairman
Supervisor Gloria Molina
Supervisor Yvonne Brathwaite Burke
Supervisor Don Knabe
Supervisor Michael D. Antonovich

From: David E. Janssen
Chief Administrative Officer

Board of Supervisors

GLORIA MOLINA
First District

YVONNE BRATHWAITE BURKE
Second District

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Third District

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Fifth District

COPPER FIRE REPORT

The Copper fire occurred from June 5-12, 2002 in the area of Saugus and the Angeles National Forest. The fire burned 23,500 acres and destroyed five residences and a small number of other structures owned by the City of Los Angeles Department of Water and Power and the US Forest Service. This report covers the activities of the following County departments:

Animal Care and Control - Evacuated approximately 100 animals including 48 horses, 1 mule, and assorted goats, pigs, chickens, and turkeys. The animals were kept at local shelters and are now in the process of being returned to their owners.

Health Services - Relocated staff and patients from Warm Springs Rehabilitation Center at High Desert Hospital to Acton Rehabilitation Center. The staff and patients have now returned to Warm Springs Rehabilitation Center.

Probation - Relocated staff and detainees from Camp Munz and Camp Mendenhall to Challenger Memorial Youth Center. Staff and detainees have returned to Camp Munz and Camp Mendenhall.

Public Social Services - Coordinated shelter activities with the American Red Cross (ARC). ARC opened two shelters on June 6, at the following locations:

1. Saugus High School, 21900 W. Centurion Way, Saugus, CA.
2. Highland High School, 39055 25th Street West, Palmdale, CA.

On June 8, the last day the shelter was open, there were 5 shelter residents at Saugus and 23 at Highland.



United We Stand

Public Works - Inspected County roads in the area, and determined the total damage to roads and supporting infrastructure at \$330,000, plus an additional \$100,000 to repair support systems. Public Works provided a building inspector to assist County Fire in the development of damage assessment figures for their report.

Sheriff - Provided interior security for the fire suppression area, evacuated over 2000 people in threatened areas, activated Area Command Team Six to coordinate use of response teams from six Sheriff Stations, and coordinated with Fire Departments, Animal Control and California Highway Patrol on evacuations, road closures, and security issues. Per the United States Forest Service (USFS) After-Action Report, first responder agencies helped prevent the loss of over \$384 million in property damage.

The Los Angeles County Emergency Operations Center was not activated for the Copper fire. However, my staff with the Office of Emergency Management (OEM) received fire status updates from County Fire, Sheriff, Animal Care and Control, Health Services, DPSS, and DPW. OEM filed status reports on the Copper Fire for the Los Angeles County Operational Area with the Governor's Office of Emergency Services (OES).

A local emergency was declared by Los Angeles County on Friday, June 7, 2002. An application with the Small Business Administration (SBA) for low interest loans for victims of the Copper fire is being coordinated with the Governor's Office of Emergency Services (OES). The number of damaged private residences in the fire was five, which is below the SBA application threshold of twenty-five private residences.

OEM and Fire hosted a meeting with cities and County departments that incurred expenses in the Copper fire on Wednesday, June 19, 2002 at the Department of Public Works Headquarters. OES presented the application process for possible reimbursement of cities and County departments' fire response costs.

The County Fire Department has filed its own separate report with your Board detailing their activities during the Copper fire.

DEJ:CP
JT:cm

- c: Emergency Management Council
Emergency Management Council Steering Committee
Emergency Management Council Subcommittee